Peace Moment for Aug 28.

Where is the Lord? How many times in your life have you been looking for God? In my times of searching, I have often been blessed with peace instead of feelings of being overwhelmed.

Finding peace "in the midst of the questions and struggles of life" strengthens my faith and increases my awareness of God's presence in my own life. Each of my sons experienced a series of health challenges. Often when we would go to the hospital, there was a nurse named Angel who would be looking after us. Angel's calming presence was good for each of us.

When we first arrived in Malaysia, I always talked to God on the way to the mall. I had just returned from being back here and really wanted to not feel so alone. It was a ½ mile walk down the hill on the way there. And I would say, "here we go God. Help me find my way today." That time, as soon as I was at the entrance, I looked up and I saw Jasmine right in front of me. Jasmine was from Iran and spoke Farcee. She and I had become friends at the church we found and attended in our neighborhood. We shared lots of smiles and a few words. She was God's presence for me and I knew that God was with me that day and many days!

In today's Scripture passage from Jeremiah, it says that the people didn't ask WHERE IS THE LORD. They weren't even considering that God has an active part in our lives and is with us wherever we go. This certainty for me has been a foundation for my faith that gets built higher and higher with each passing experience. Especially experiences where I find myself going through something where I don't want to be alone, I know that I can count on finding courage through my faith. "All I have seen teaches me to trust the Creator for all I have not seen." These are the words that were on a poster that I hung in my room when I was a teenager. All these years later, they are still important to me. Where is the Lord? Right beside me wherever I go!

Peace Mediation:

- 1. Have you ever seen the Footprints in the Sand poem? When has God carried you and there has only been 1 set of Footprints?
- 2. Do you take time daily, weekly, monthly to look for God in your life?
- 3. How does recognizing God's presence bring you peace?

Prayer for Peace

Loving God, we come to this time of peaceful sanctuary and pause to recognize your grace and generosity in our lives. Open our hearts to your loving spirit that is our companion and guide. Help us know with assurance that your love and mercy accompany us wherever we go. Bless us as we seek and share the Peace of Jesus Christ with those we meet. Amen.